

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 IGA-01 ACDA-05 MC-02 TRSE-00

IO-10 ERDA-05 /086 W

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P 271259Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8133

INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

CINCEUR PRIORITY

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES PRIORITY

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 1640

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: TAGS: MARR, MASS, PFOR, TU

SUBJ: DEFENSE MINISTER'S COMMENTS ON GOT REACTION TO AID CUT-OFF

REF: ANKARA 1615 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: IN LATEST OF A SERIES OF INTERVIEWS WITH LOCAL PRESS, DEFENSE MINISTER ILHAMI SANCAR OUTLINED MORE EXPLICITLY THAN GOT LEADERS HAVE PREVIOUSLY DONE THE ACTIONS WHICH WOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST U.S. INSTALLATIONS IF AID NOT RESTORED, REAFFIRMED GOT INTENTIONS TO REMAIN IN NATO, AND AGAIN EXPRESSED DETERMINATION TO EXPAND DEFENSE INDUSTRIES. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING FEBRUARY 27 ISSUE OF CONSERVATIVE DAILY TERCUMAN, SANCAR STATED THAT, IF CONGRESS DOES NOT

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RESUME MILITARY AID, GOT WILL SHUT DOWN FIRST JUSMMAT

AND TUSLOG, SECONDLY "COMMUNICATIONS INSTALLATIONS WHICH ARE LINKED ONLY TO THE U.S.", AND FINALLY, "ALL OTHER INSTALLATIONS REQUIRED BY MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT." "NATO JOINT DEFENSE BASES" WERE EXPLICITLY EXCLUDED FROM GOT SHUT-DOWN PLAN OUTLINED BY SANCAR. CHARGING THAT U.S. STALLING HAD PREVENTED COMPLETION OF IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS, SANCAR SAID GOT IS NOW IN A POSITION TO "FREEZE THINGS WHERE THEY ARE, MAKE RETROSPECTIVE REVISIONS AND TAKE DECISIONS ON INSTALLATIONS" OUTSIDE NATO FRAMEWORK. COMMENT: "TUSLOG" IS PROBABLY RUBRIC FOR BALGAT SUPPORT INSTALLTION IN ANKARA, "COMMUNICATIONS INSTALLATIONS" FOR INTELLIGENCE GATHERING AND PERHAPS SOME ASSOCIATED COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES, AND "NATO JOINT DEFENSE BASES" FOR INCIRLIK AIRBASE. THESE PRIORITIES COINCIDE WITH OUR ESTIMATE OF CURRENT GOT THINKING.

3. SANCAR EMPHASIZED THAT U.S. AID CUT-OFF WOULD NOT AFFECT TURKEY'S RELATIONS WITH NATO. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT NATO'S SURVIVAL DEPENDED ON ITS SOUTHEASTERN FLANK REMAINING STRONG AND DEPLORED A TENDENCY TOWARDS RELAXATION ON THE PART OF NATO MEMBERS NOT DIRECTLY FACING DANGER.

4. SANCAR PREDICTED THAT NATIONAL AWAKENING RESULTING FROM CYPRUS PEACE OPERATION WILL PRODUCE FINANCIAL RESOURCES NEEDED FOR EXPANSION OF DEFENSE INDUSTRIES. HE SAID DECISION WOULD SOON BE TAKEN ON AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY AND THAT TURKEY HAD REACHED "TEST PERIOD FOR UTILIZATION OF NUCLEAR ENERGY BOTH FOR INDUSTRY AND FOR DEFENSE." (ABC STRINGER HERE TELLS US THAT SANCAR IN FEBRUARY 27 INTERVIEW WITH HIM ALSO RAISED POSSIBILITY OF TURKEY OBTAINING NUCLEAR ARMS CAPABILITY.)
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, TAGS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, MILITARY BASE AGREEMENTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ANKARA01640
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750069-0610
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975029/aaaaahcs.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ANKARA 1615
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <05 DEC 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEFENSE MINISTER'S COMMENTS ON GOT REACTION TO AID CUT-OFF
TAGS: MARR, MASS, PFOR, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006